AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Page 35, third paragraph as follows:

As shown by block ~~672~~ 674, upon being turned on, the SR boots-up the operating system 632 (FIG. 5). Preferably, the operating system is Linux, however, the operating system may be any other operating system such as, but not limited to, Lynx, PSOS, Solaris, or VxWorks. As shown by block ~~674~~ 672, an SR startup script is then executed as part of the operating system boot-up process. To permit starting the SR in diagnostic mode (a mode where no action is taken until an operator intervenes), a test for diagnostic mode (block 676) is completed. If the SR does not start in diagnostic mode, systematically checking (blocks 678, 682, 684) for whether a particular daemon, or process, is configured to run is performed. Specifically, after starting a system logging mechanism (block 686), a determination is made as to whether, the SR runs TRIP (block 678), the SR runs SIP (block 682), and the SR runs LDAP (block 684). Each of the respective daemons is then started if SR runs the daemon (blocks 688, 692, 694 respectively).

Please amend Page 40, third paragraph as follows:

Each ITAD is preferably defined by a 32-bit integer that is assigned by the Internet assigned numbers authority (IANA). Each SR (cluster) has a configured set of policy screens that are used to manage collections of advertised routes received from, and transmitted to, foreign ITADs. Referring to FIG. 7, an adjacent ITAD 702 data object contains a foreign ITAD identifier 704, which is similar to the ITAD identifier 348 (FIG. 3A) contained in the adjacent router 342 (FIG. 3a) data object. If there is no configured adjacent ITAD 702 data object, then

3

no routes will be advertised outside the ITAD and no received routes from the foreign ITAD will be used. This proves a high degree of security over routing algorithms, if required. For each adjacent ITAD 702 configuration, there are name 706 and description ~~708~~ 718 fields to describe the ITAD; these fields are used for descriptive purposes only and have no algorithmic consequence.